

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 0976

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SUBJECT: MEETINGS ON DEVELOPMENT CENTRE GUIDELINES
AND WORK PROGRAM - MARCH 1, 2, AND 3, 1976

REF: STATE 048190

1. SUMMARY. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET TWICE AND SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ONCE DURING MARCH 1-3 PERIOD TO CONSIDER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE GUIDELINES AND REVISED 1976 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET. CONSENSUS WAS THAT NEW DRAFT OF GUIDELINES BETTER THAN PREVIOUS. IT WAS FURTHER CLARIFIED AND IMPROVED ON BASIS SUGGESTIONS MADE BY U.S., U.K., SWEDEN, BELGIUM AND OTHERS. REVISED PARAGRAPH 10 FINALLY APPROVED ALONG LINES OUR SUGGESTIONS. PARAGRAPHS 1-5 ALSO APPROVED, BUT 6-9 (ESPECIALLY CONCENTRATION AREAS) AND ANNEX REMAIN FOR EXPERTS TO DISCUSS NEXT WEEK. CENTRE PROMISES THAT REVISED WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET WILL COVER TOTAL PROGRAM AND NOT JUST RESEARCH, AND WILL BE READY MARCH 5 OR 8. END SUMMARY.

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2. OECD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET MARCH 1 TO DISCUSS

LATEST DRAFT OF DEVELOPMENT CENTRE GUIDELINES, I.E., CE(76)2 (FIRST REVISION), DATED FEBRUARY 19, 1976. CHAIRMAN GALLAGHER NOTED THAT COMMITTEE'S TASK IS TO PROVIDE GUIDELINES TO EXPERTS WHO WILL MEET MARCH 10-11 TO DISCUSS CENTRE'S REVISED 1976 PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET. HE URGED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT LEAST TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THE OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 10 OF THE DRAFT.

3. SWEDEN OPENED THE LENGTHY DISCUSSION BY SAYING IT PREFERRED PREVIOUS DRAFT OF GUIDELINES, AND HAD DIFFICULTIES WITH THIS NEW DRAFT BECAUSE OF MAJOR CHANGES. TO SWEDEN IMPORTANT CHANGE WAS NEW PARAGRAPH 7 WHICH SEEMED TO MAKE STUDIES OF NATURAL RESOURCES THE NEW NUMBER ONE PRIORITY RESEARCH AREA. SWEDEN PREFERRED THAT NUMBER ONE AREA REMAIN INDUSTRIALIZATION AS IN PREVIOUS DRAFT. U.K. EXPRESSED SOME SYMPATHY FOR SWEDISH POINT, SAYING NEW DRAFT "SEEMS CONFUSING" REGARDING CONCENTRATION AREAS; HOWEVER, NEW PARAGRAPH 10 APPEARED GENERALLY REASONABLE. BUT NETHERLANDS, U.S. (AMBASSADOR TURNER), FRANCE, BELGIUM, GERMANY, AUSTRIA, AND IRELAND ALL EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR NEW DRAFT, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL HAD SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR REVISIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS. U.S. TABLED PAPER SUGGESTING NINE SPECIFIC CHANGES IN NEW DRAFT, DRAWN PRIMARILY FROM REFTEL. WE SUGGESTED THAT SMALL WORKING GROUP BE SET UP IMMEDIATELY TO CONSIDER THESE AND OTHER CHANGES INDICATED BY U.K., BELGIUM, AND SWEDEN, AND REPORT BACK TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. SWEDEN THEN SUGGESTED THAT IF MEMBERS COULD NOT AGREE TO RETURN TO PREVIOUS DRAFT, SECRETARIAT SHOULD PRODUCE A COMPLETELY NEW VERSION FOR CONSIDERATION BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. BUT THIS WAS REJECTED AND CONSENSUS FINALLY REACHED AFTER MUCH GIVE-AND-TAKE TO FORM WORKING GROUP AS SUGGESTED BY U.S. TO WORK THE FOLLOWING DAY ON REVISION OF LATEST DRAFT.

4. HENRY SAID REVISED 1976 WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD BE READY IN FEW DAYS IN TIME FOR EXPERTS' MEETING. U.S. WELCOMED THIS, AND ASKED FOR ASSURANCE THAT TOTAL ACTIVITIES OF CENTRE, I.E., RESEARCH, CONFERENCES, MEETINGS, TRAVEL, ETC., WILL BE COVERED SINCE IT IS THE TOTAL PROGRAM AND BUDGET AND NOT ONLY RESEARCH THAT MUST EVENTUALLY BE CONSIDERED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL. HENRY SAID ALL WILL BE COVERED. U.S. THEN SUGGESTED IT

WOULD BE USEFUL IF PROGRAM AND BUDGET ALSO
BROKEN DOWN BY CONCENTRATION AREAS IN ADDITION TO
CURRENT BREAK-DOWN ON OFFICE-BY-OFFICE BASIS. HENRY
SAID CONCENTRATION AREA BREAKDOWN DIFFICULT ON SHORT
NOTICE, AND SUGGESTED THIS APPROACH BE INTRODUCED

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NEXT YEAR RATHER THAN NOW. IN VIEW OF TIME
PRESSURES FOR APPROVAL OF THIS YEAR'S BUDGET, WE
DID NOT PRESS THIS POINT FURTHER.

5. WORKING GROUP MET MARCH 2 UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF
ENRICO MACCHIA, NEW OECD SPECIAL COUNSELOR FOR
DEVELOPMENT. PARTICIPANTS WERE U.S. (RAYMOND MALLEY),
U.K., GERMANY, JAPAN, SWEDEN, NETHERLANDS, FRANCE,
BELGIUM, TURKEY, SECRETARIAT, AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE.
GROUP DECIDED TO FOCUS INITIALLY ON PARAGRAPH 10
AS CHAIRMAN GALLAGHER HAD REQUESTED, AND AFTER
ANIMATED EXCHANGES, AGREEMENT WAS FINALLY REACHED ON
NEW VERSION WHICH INCORPORATES OUR MAJOR REQUIRE-
MENTS. WE USED ARGUMENTS IN PARA. 3 REFTEL TO GET
CONCURRENCE THAT REFERENCE TO CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS
BE ELIMINATED. NEW TEXT PARAGRAPH 10 BEING CABLED
BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.

6. WORKING GROUP ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT ON PARAGRAPHS 1-5, BUT NOT ON 7-9. MOST PARTICIPANTS SEEMED TO PREFER OUR MAJOR REWRITE OF PARAGRAPH 6, BUT WERE UNABLE TO TAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT REFERENCE TO CAPITALS. WE ARGUED FOR ELIMINATION OF ADVERSE REFERENCE TO "CLASSICAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES" ON UNCLASSIFIED

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GROUND DOCUMENT SHOULD BE NEUTRAL AND NOT REFER TO ANY ONE ECONOMIC THEORY OR APPROACH. GOT STRONG SUPPORT ON THIS POINT FROM FRANCE AND U.K., AND STRONG OPPOSITION FROM SWEDEN AND NETHERLANDS. IN DEBATE WITH SWEDEN WE SAID IN OUR VIEW MANY LDC'S COULD WELL BENEFIT FROM INJECTIONS OF CLASSICAL ECONOMIC INCENTIVES AND STIMULANTS TO PROMOTE GROWTH. PARAGRAPH 7 DIFFICULT FOR SWEDEN, U.K., AND GERMANY BECAUSE IT INTRODUCES FOUR AREAS FOR NEW CENTRE PROGRAM, WHILE ANNEX LISTS FOUR DIFFERENT AREAS OF ONGOING PROGRAM, GIVING TOTAL OF EIGHT DIFFERENT CONCENTRATION HEADINGS. THIS IS CONFUSING AND IT SEEMS NUMBER MUST BE SLIMMED DOWN. BUT SINCE THIS TOPIC ALSO REQUIRES REFERENCE TO CAPITALS, WORKING GROUP DECIDED IT WOULD BE BEST TO LEAVE IT TO EXPERTS TO CONSIDER CONCENTRATION AREAS NEXT WEEK. OUR WORD CLARIFICATIONS TO PARAGRAPH 7 AS LISTED IN PARA. 2 B OF REFTEL WERE APPROVED.

7. AT RELATIVELY SHORT MARCH 3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, PARAGRAPH 10 AS REVISED BY WORKING GROUP APPROVED PROMPTLY, AS WERE PARAGRAPHS 1-5 AND OUR MINOR CHANGES TO PARAGRAPH 7. (THUS, OF NINE CHANGES WE SUGGESTED MARCH 1, THREE APPROVED IN TOTO, THREE ACCEPTED WITH MINOR ADJUSTMENTS, AND THREE CONCERNING PARAGRAPHS 6 AND 7 REMAIN FOR CONSIDERATION NEXT WEEK.) PARAGRAPHS 6-9 WILL BE REFERRED DIRECTLY TO EXPERTS. SPIRITED DISCUSSION AGAIN TOOK PLACE REGARDING ADVERSE REFERENCES TO "CLASSICAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES". FRENCH REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED OUR SUGGESTION TO ELIMINATE THIS, ARGUING IN PHILOSOPHIC VEIN THAT REFERENCE TO ONE THEORY NOT JUSTIFIED BECAUSE VARIOUS APPROACHES NECESSARY TO TACKLE EXTREMELY COMPLEX PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPMENT.

8. QUESTION RAISED AS TO THE EXTENT EXPERTS SHOULD BECOME INVOLVED IN CENTRE'S 1976 BUDGET, AS OPPOSED TO WORK PROGRAM. NETHERLANDS AND FRANCE STRONGLY OPPOSED SUCH INVOLVEMENT, BUT HENRY AND OTHERS

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NOTED THAT EXPERTS WILL HAVE TO BE INVOLVED TO SOME EXTENT BECAUSE PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM OF NECESSITY CONTAINS MANPOWER AND COST ESTIMATES. SWEDEN SUGGESTED EXPERTS SHOULD CLEARLY INDICATE PRIORITY ORDER OF CENTRE PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES SO THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE LEAST IMPORTANT IF SUFFICIENT FUNDS NOT AVAILABLE. CONSENSUS REACHED THAT EXPERTS CHIEF TASK IS TO ASSESS PRIORITY AND SOUNDNESS OF PROGRAM AND PROJECTS, AND THAT THEY SHOULD DISCUSS FINANCIAL QUESTIONS ONLY TO EXTENT NECESSARY TO ASSESS PROGRAM. IT WILL REMAIN FOR BUDGET COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS OF EXPERTS' WORK.

9. NET RESULT OF THESE THREE MEETINGS IS THAT EXPERTS' FIRST TASK WILL BE TO ASSESS PARAGRAPHS 6-9, FOLLOWING WHICH THEY MUST TACKLE REVISED PROPOSED 1976 PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET WHICH WE WILL HAVE

UST RECEIVED. MACCHIA CHOSEN BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
TO CHAIR EXPERTS' MEETING, WHICH MAY WELL LAST MORE
THAN TWO DAYS. WE STRONGLY URGE THAT WASHINGTON
PARTICIPANT(S) ARRIVE HERE IN TIME TO SPEND ALL
DAY TUESDAY MARCH 9 WITH US STUDYING DOCUMENTS AND
REACHING AGREEMENT ON POSITIONS. PLEASE ADVISE.
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